

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A multi-level multiplexor system by which a networked browser client accesses content information over a networked computer system comprising:

at least one program executing on a server operably connected to the networked computer system that receives a service request from the networked browser client and in response packages a reply that causes the networked browser client to automatically issue a plurality of service requests to sources of content information on the networked computer system and present responses to the plurality of service requests to sources of content information such that each response is selectively displayed as one of a cascaded series of pages of content information within a single window frame in the networked browser client.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein the at least one program accesses at least one database operably connected to the server and encodes information from the at least one database into a markup language as part of the reply.

3. The system of claim 1 wherein the networked computer system is the Internet and the server is hosting a web site accessible over the Internet.

4. The system of claim 1 wherein the cascaded series of pages of content information are created as a layered series of iframes with each iframe having a tab indicator that controls whether that iframe is to be displayed or hidden in the layered series.

5. The system of claim 4 wherein the tab indicator controls style sheet commands embedded in the markup language of the reply.

6. A method for accessing content information over a networked computer system, the method comprising the following steps:

sending a service request from a networked browser client to a networked server; and
 in response, sending a packaged reply from the networked server to the networked browser client, the packaged reply causing the networked browser client to issue a plurality of service requests from the networked browser client to content information on the networked computer system; and

displaying the original content information on the networked browser client in response to the plurality of service requests such that additional service requests are not required in order to view the content information.

7. A method for accessing content information over a networked computer system according to claim 6, wherein the networked computer system is the Internet and the server is hosting a web site accessible over the Internet.

8. A method for accessing content information over a networked computer system according to claim 6, wherein the service request is sent to at least one database which contains control and formatting information.

9. A method for accessing content information over a networked computer system according to claim 6, wherein the packaged reply consists of gathered database control and formatting information encoded into a markup language by the networked server for use by the networked browser client.

10. A method for accessing content information over a networked computer system according to claim 6, wherein the packaged reply causes displaying of a cascading series of pages of content information on the networked browser client such that each response is selectively displayed as one of a cascaded series of pages of content information within a single window frame.

11. A method of accessing content information over a networked computer system according to claim 10, wherein the cascaded series of pages of content information are created as a layered series of iframes.

12. A method of accessing content information over a networked computer system according to claim 11, wherein the iframes consist of a plurality of tab indicators effecting the hiding or display of a layer of content information by control of commands embedded in the markup language of the packaged reply.

13. A storage medium having stored therein instructions causing a networked browser client to perform the steps of:

- sending a service request from a networked browser client to a networked server;
- receiving a packaged reply from the networked server;
- issuing a plurality of server requests in response to the packaged reply from the networked server; and
- displaying content information received in response to the plurality of service requests according to the embedded control and formatting information communicated in the packaged reply such that the content information is displayed in a cascaded series of pages with each response selectively displayable as one of a cascaded series of pages of content information within a single window frame.

14. A storage medium having stored therein instructions causing a networked server to perform the steps of:

- receiving a service request from a networked browser client on a networked computer system; and
- in response, packaging a reply containing control and formatting information as well as content information to cause the networked browser client to display a cascading series of pages of content information associated with a plurality of responses to a plurality of service requests initiated in response to the packaged reply such that each response is selectively displayed as one of a cascaded series of pages of content information within a single window frame; and
- sending the packaged reply from the networked server to the networked browser client.

15. A method for establishing a stateless environment for accessing content information over a networked computer system, the method comprising the following steps:

sending a service request from a networked browser client to a networked server; and

packaging a reply by the networked server based on an intelligent decision by the networked server whether control and formatting information for displaying a cascaded series of content information on the networked browser client will be managed by the networked browser client or by the networked server if the control and formatting information is large or frequently changing; and

sending a packaged reply from the networked server to the networked browser client, wherein the packaged reply contains instructions within the control and formatting information as to whether the networked browser client or the networked server will manage the displaying of the cascaded series of content information.